

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2011 MEETING

In Attendance:

Alan Baker

Al Floyd

Dick Sherman

Brief Attendance:

Absent:

Ken Francis

John Burnham

Albert Grant

Dick Sullivan

Gil Hayes

Lois Noble

John Drake

Jim Halloran

Deb Talamini

Joanne Drapeau

Barbara Sherman

Tom Talamini

CALL TO ORDER: 7:06 PM

ADDED AGENDA ITEMS: Under New Business: f, g and h

MINUTES of September 15, 2011 MEETING: Approved with 4 abstentions.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

- a. "Mansions at Canyon Ridge" – Robin Newton turned over original map and paperwork granting the permission to make and maintain trails. Members will figure out best area for maximum use and least issues. Discussion followed.
- b. River Review / Water testing – Waters high / 2 took trip on Columbus Day total time 1 hour 50 minutes. It was requested that additional water testing sites be added: Reservoir Pond, Chestnut, Broad Brook and Ketch Brooks. Harrington Stream to be added in the future. South Windsor is getting on board to do samples at 3 sites in its town.
- c. Melrose Bridge Plans – In the hands of town officials. Been told grant is still viable. Engineering firm will inspect Bridge.
- d. Decal sales – Total sold 125 / 135 available for sale.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. October 7 work party – 7 attended / October 9 – 4 attended.
- b. SRWA – At annual meeting, Dr. Martin presented her findings from one year's testing, noting most results were from East Windsor sites. Our group received lots of kudos for its efforts. Greenway status will be granted to South Windsor on Friday in Andover. Anyone interested in attending can ride with the chair.
- c. Trail name – Still tabled at this time.
- d. Scantic River State Park trail development – Alan Baker reported that the trail was approved by the State; but a separate process/forms needed to get approval for the bridges. Trail needs to be 4 foot wide, no trees can be cut.
- e. Norton Property – Selectman said that the negotiations about legal easement for property trail would be after the elections next month.
- f. A thank you to Tom and Deb for a great fun day – good to be together without working.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. October Work Party – Enough done this month already, next scheduled date is November 12 with plan to work on the trails to regain the results of work previously done.

- b. Fun River trip postponed until October 29; meeting at 12 for launch by 12:30; should take about 3 hours if total trip done or participants can do shorter versions.
- c. Renaming of river activity areas – Town has certain criteria and suggestions which we will discuss at future date.
- d. Plans for our trails – We will continue to work on these.
- e. End of year wrap-up / workshop – To recap the year, date set for December 3rd, Burnham's Barn, 4PM. Please bring pot luck dish / BYOB.
- f. AHRC Educational Extension – Member Alan Baker has spoken to the new high school principal asking for students to assist AHRC as a community service requirement. Plan to get science teachers doing projects on river, maybe even the water testing at some future time, and have a liaison to the Commission.
- f. Michael Welti now has a colorful map and other information for his Boy Scout Eagle project. It was reported he has the permission to build a kiosk at one of our trailheads. Future kiosks could be utilized at our other trail locations and it was noted that the DEEP sometimes provides materials for these projects as well as the plans.

7. Public input: none

ADJOURNMENT: 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Sherman – 10/21/11